



Department of History, Arts and
Libraries

LEGISLATIVE AND STATE EMPLOYEE SERVICES NEWSLETTER # 2 WINTER 2003

THIS ISSUE: IDENTITY THEFT

Seasons Greetings!

As we all pull out our credit cards and checkbooks for the holiday season we need to be mindful of the most recent 'hot' crime IDENTITY THEFT or FALSE PERSONATION. Its effects have lingering consequences for its victims. Here are a few resources to help combat it.

Database Spotlight

LegalTrac is now available through MeL in the InfoTrac collection at www.mel.org. It contains indexing and abstracting from over 1400 legal periodicals and full text from over 100 of those titles. False personation is broken down into several subcategories: cases; laws, regulations, etc.; litigation; personalities; prevention; and remedies.

Research Services Spotlight

The Library of Michigan's State Law Library, located on the first floor of the G. Mennen Williams Building, is one place to find information on identity theft. The librarians can locate factual information for you, and can search the law, or assist you in doing so.

The Michigan Legislature has already addressed the problem of identity theft. In addition to Michigan Compiled Laws section 750.285 (see ***Current Law in Michigan*** for link), section 600.2964 deals with the use of credit card and social

security numbers. Section 257.310 makes it a crime to duplicate a driver's license for certain purposes. During this term, the Legislature is considering 10 new bills to further address the problem of identity theft. They are SBs 792-794, 796-798, 803 & 878-880. SB 792 would create an Identity Theft Protection Act. Several others deal with victim's rights. Visit www.mileg.org for more information about this legislation.

If **LegalTrac** (see ***Database Spotlight***) turns up an article on identity theft that you'd like to read, chances are you'll find it in our library. We have a wide variety of scholarly legal journals, state bar journals and newsletters. Articles not in our print collection may be available via Lexis Public Access, another database available for public use at the law library. In addition to full text periodicals, Lexis Public Access expands our coverage of federal and state statutes and case law, adding the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory and all Shepard's citators.

Finally, the law library has books about computer and Internet law, which discuss privacy issues. For example, Computer Law Guide, published by Commerce Clearing House, summarizes major federal statutes such as the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986.



31300 still answered by a real person

Call us for all your information needs!

Phone: 31300 Fax: 35853

Law: 30630 Email: librarian@michigan.gov

Hours: Mon-Fri 8-6, Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5

Constituent Tip

Identity Theft: A Quiz for Consumers from the U.S. Dept. Justice
<http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fraud/idquiz.pdf>

Selected Library Resources & Web Sites

CONSUMER RESOURCES

Federal Trade Commission: Your National Resource for Identity Theft
<http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft>

Identity theft center: a nonprofit organization
<http://www.idtheftcenter.org/index.shtml>

Identity Theft University-Business Partnership at Michigan State University
<http://www.cj.msu.edu/~outreach/identity>

Tips for Victims - Identity Theft - California Dept. of Justice –
<http://caag.state.ca.us/idtheft/tips.htm>

Driver's license security issues: hearing before the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit of the Committee on Transportation, House of Representatives, 107th Congress, 2d session, September 5, 2002.; US Docs; Y 4.T 68/2:107-93

A license to break the law? : protecting the integrity of driver's licenses : hearing before the Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, U. S. Senate, 107th Congress, 2d session, April 16, 2002.; US Docs; Y 4.G 74/9:S.HRG.107-506

Financial privacy: too soon to assess the privacy provisions in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 : report to Congressional committees, U.S. General Accounting Office, [Washington, D.C.] : The Office, [2001]
<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS12550>

Identity theft: final report, Economic Crimes Policy Team, [Washington, D.C.]:

U.S. Sentencing Commission, [1999]
<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS18364>

Statistics -- Michigan

Identity Theft Michigan
<http://101-identitytheft.com/identity-theft-michigan.htm>

Identity Theft Victim Complaint Data Figures and Trends in Michigan
http://www.consumer.gov/sentinel/idt_state_map/Michigan%20CY2002.pdf

National and state trends in fraud and identity theft [electronic resource] : January-December 2002. [Washington, D.C.] : Federal Trade Comm., [2003]
<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS34403>



Frosty the Fleeceman ~ Off to Jamaica

Current Law in Michigan

<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/mileg.asp?page=getObject&objName=mcl-750-285&userid=>

Current Law in the U.S.

<http://www.identity-theft-protection.com/laws.html>

2002 Michigan Fraud Facts

Michigan ranked 17th in numbers of cases identity theft

4,640 Michiganians were victims of identity theft

1,974 reported credit card fraud

Source:

http://www.consumer.gov/sentinel/idt_state_map/Michigan%20CY2002.pdf